



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Rhode Island Hospital Day

WHEREAS, the founders of Rhode Island Hospital were motivated first and foremost by a desire to serve their community by caring for the sick, and one hundred and fifty years ago the Rhode Island General Assembly enacted the charter that authorized the building of a new hospital to care for the citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, after five years of planning, on October 1, 1868, the new hospital opened its doors and has been serving the citizens of Rhode Island ever since; and

WHEREAS, through wars, epidemics and disasters, Rhode Island Hospital has been ready to respond to the ever shifting needs of the population; and

WHEREAS, in 1945 the Institute of Pathology was established to provide laboratory service for area hospitals, initiating an era of promising research for the state, and by 1948 the trustees approved a change to the hospital's statement of purpose that acknowledged this development, describing the hospital as an institution dedicated to the care of the sick, education and research; and

WHEREAS, by the beginning of the 21st century Rhode Island Hospital was home to a burgeoning research enterprise, with substantial grants funding leading research in cancer, orthopedics, neurology and cardiovascular disease, the role of stem cells in cancer, the molecular and cellular events involved in the development of cancer, and the prevention and treatment of skeletal joint diseases; and

WHEREAS, the hospital today is the major trauma center for southeastern New England and the principal teaching hospital of The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; and

WHEREAS, with ongoing community support Rhode Island Hospital continues to expand and improve to support its mission to be at the forefront of medicine and its physicians are recognized leaders in the fields of cancer, cardiology, diabetes, emergency medicine and trauma, neuroscience, orthopedics, pediatrics, radiation oncology and surgery; and

WHEREAS, in order to create the highest quality programs in the region and to provide patients with the most leading-edge technology available, Rhode Island Hospital is committed to harnessing the power of collaboration to create a world-class academic medical center and is now a driving force in the evolution to medical centers of excellence, such as the Cardiovascular Institute and the Comprehensive Cancer Center, and these key programs promise to deliver the best care available and to benefit the patients of our community and our region far into the future; and

WHEREAS, although it is today a regional powerhouse in medicine and research, Rhode Island Hospital remains true to its historical legacy and still provides more than \$46 million annually in uncompensated care for people in need, and the founders would find that their values—commitment to community, dedication to excellence and courage to innovate—are still at the heart of their hospital, having guided Rhode Island Hospital admirably for a century and a half; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim March 13, 2013 as Rhode Island Hospital Day in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island and
Providence Plantations,
this 13th day of March, 2013

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State